It's Alive!

James Conrad explains how to bring little things to life.

Obviously, you were interested in science as a child. But why robots?

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How did you approach Jonathan Mills and become Stiquito's marketing genius?

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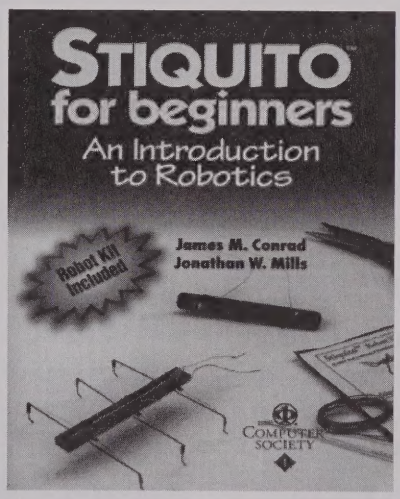

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(continued on page 6)

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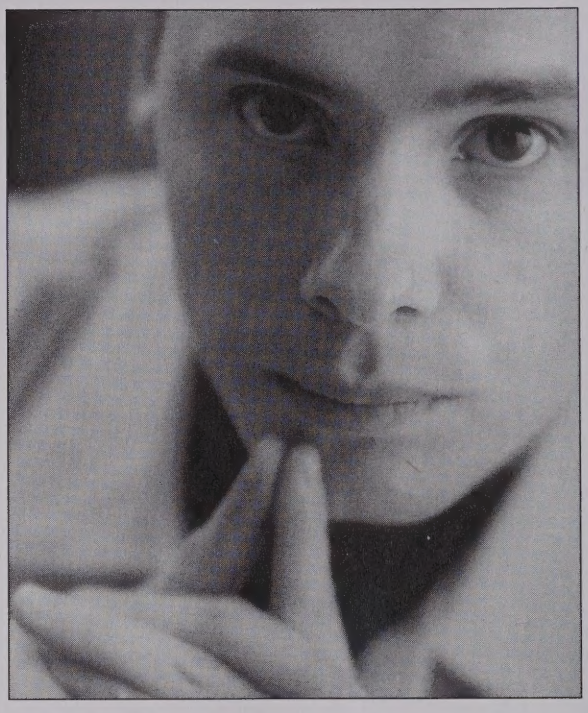

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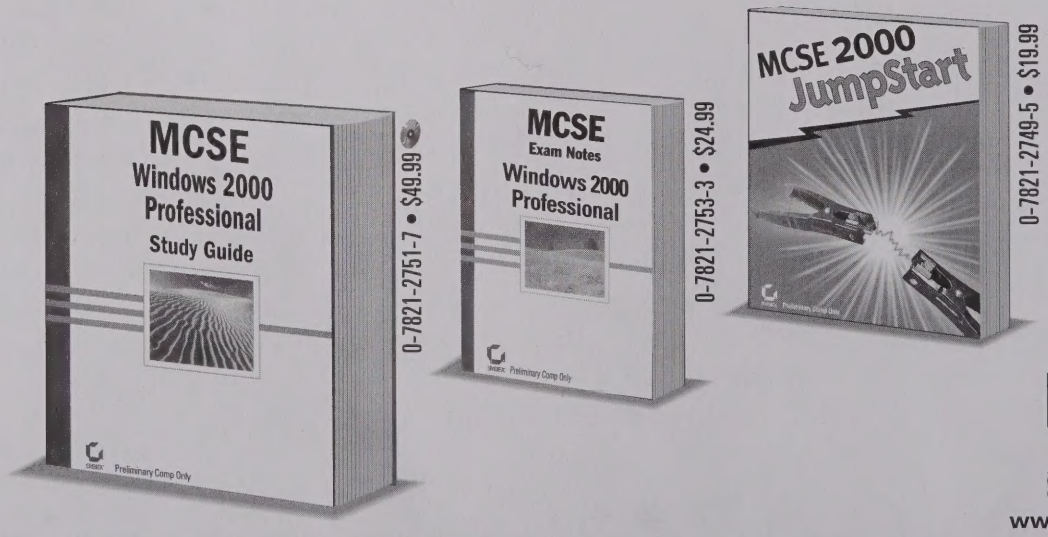

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•Web Pages that Suck
•Tesla: The Lost Inventions
•How to Make and Sell your own Recording
•Before and After

Author Signings

Lyle Cummins
Robert Cortright
Charles Petzold

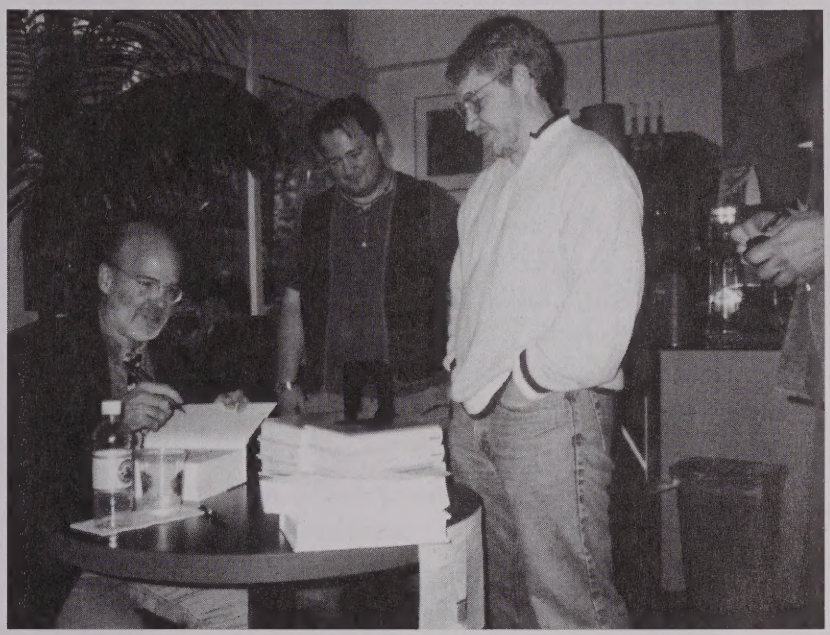
Ephemera

• Customer in the Stacks

• All-new techie crossword

•Build your own robot! **James Conrad**, Stiquito marketeer and enthusiast, shows us how.

•Our used book buyers tour the **Linda Hall Library**.



Charles Petzold is a computing hero. He wrote the first article about Windows-based programming for the December 1986 issue of *Microsoft Systems Journal*. Since then, he's written numerous best-selling books as well as for the *New York Times* and many industry magazines. Mr. Petzold made a rare author appearance here at the Technical store last fall to promote his latest book, **Code: The Hidden Language of Computer Hardware and Software.**

The first idea for this new book came to Petzold in 1987, as a columnist for *PC* magazine. Someone wrote in, "What does Boolean algebra have to do with computers?" Good question! Petzold realized that this topic could be broadened and written for non-technical folks. "This book is unique in its approach to computer technology," he said. While researching this book, he looked to the 19th century to get a historical perspective on modern computers. "The

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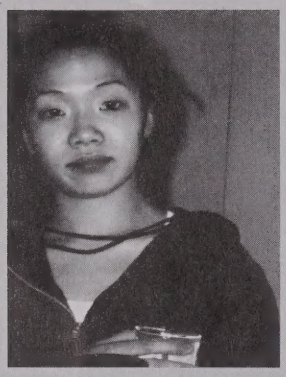

Kim, in a pensive moment.

Before coming here, you worked in restaurants. Do you miss it?
Yes, I do miss restaurant work. It's hard, but for me, it's also the best work. The thing that I miss most about it is the *hum*. That feeling of a busy place and you're in the middle of it doing five things at once. At the end of the shift, you sit down and have that glass of wine or beer and know it's all over. People go out to have a good time, so it's a lot like hosting one big party and getting paid.

Tell me about your favorite customer.
He's an older man we called "Lucky." He once tried to do a push-up to impress all the waitresses, but because he's so frail, he got stuck on the floor. A customer thought we should call 911. Lucky said, "Don't call 911, help me up!" He scared us when he tripped on the curb and got a concussion. He was back to his ornery self in a couple days.

Did you have an Atari when you were a kid?
I did. I didn't play with it much, though; I had a big project in the works. Between the ages of 4 and 6, much of my spare time was spent digging a hole to China with my brother's Tonka trucks. I figured if it didn't work, then we could use it for a swimming pool. My mom was the neighborhood Pacman and Donkey Kong champion. Kids would come from all over to challenge Mom on the Atari.

How did you first discover the Tech store?
I remember my first Tech store experience like my first bite of apple; that is, not very well. I grew up here in Portland, so I've always known about Powell's. I knew about the Tech store from working in the neighborhood. One day I saw an ad in the paper, and decided to apply. I took some Photoshop and computer classes the summer before, so my intimidation factor was low. I figured working in a bookstore would be like like working in a flower shop or restaurant. Spending the day surrounded by books was just as romantic as spending a day surrounded by flowers or food.

What do you do when you're not working here?
I'm fairly busy. I take martial art classes, do photography, write, read, listen to a lot of music, cook, and garden. I try to see my dad and five brothers and sisters every other week, but it turns out to be more like once a month. I've recently agreed to help a friend start a cafe. I plan to go back to school in the spring, and I'm trying to fit scuba diving lessons in, and then there's always quality time with my cat.

What food do you crave the most?
Since I quit smoking almost two months ago, I eat all the time. I mostly crave udon noodles from Koji's. I've tried them at other places, but they're not as good. I've even tried making them myself, but the broth is either too bland or too fishy.

What book is currently on your bedside table?
I'm working on *Memoirs of a Geisha*, but I don't care for it too much. It's a nice story about human triumph, but it's a bit predictable. My favorites are *The Fountainhead*, *On the Road*, *Franny and Zooey*, *The Most Beautiful Woman in Town*, *Bomb the Suburbs*, *The Ways of White Folks*, *Their Eyes Were Watching God*, and *The War Prayer*. I read these books over and over again. I think everyone should read Einstein's essay, "The World as I See It" as well.

(continued from page 1)

technology to build a computer existed in 1870," he continued. "But it took 60 years for someone to think of it!"

Petzold focuses on 3 people for the historical background of modern computing: Samuel Morse, Louis Braille and George Boole. In their day, none of these fellows were expected to amount to much. But, as always, history proved their critics wrong. Morse code was the first binary code, and Braille is *also* an early binary code, a pattern of 6 raised dots which represent up to 64 characters. George Boole, for whom Boolean algebra is named, was fascinated by mathematical logic. This logic, combined with relays, led to the invention of computers. Did these three men know that they were the fathers of the computer age? Of course not. But Petzold patiently explains their links to modern technology, and that is precisely what makes his new book so interesting.

Petzold's in-store appearance was *just* as interesting. Below are a few questions that he fielded from a politely adoring audience.

Your new book is full of diagrams and schematics. Did you draw these all yourself ?
At first I did, but as time went on, I scanned in the drawings. There's 480 separate pieces of artwork in the book! An artist from Microsoft made them look nice. As you read the book, the diagrams build on themselves and get more complex with each chapter. Unfortunately, people tend to flip through the book from back to front, and get intimidated. We wish some left-handed folks would browse it front to back!

Do you think the government will shut down the Internet?
The government isn't technically capable of getting rid of the Internet—it exists as a series of protocols. They *can* try to ban it, however.

What do you think about Y2K?
There will be lots of problems in financial systems that use COBOL. But really, it's a credit to those programmers that these programs have lasted as much as 30 years! In 1985, the insurance company that I worked at already had a Y2K task force working on this problem. I might withdraw some money from my bank. That's about it.

What books do you like?
I collect old math table books. I wish I had time to browse the math section here more thorougly!

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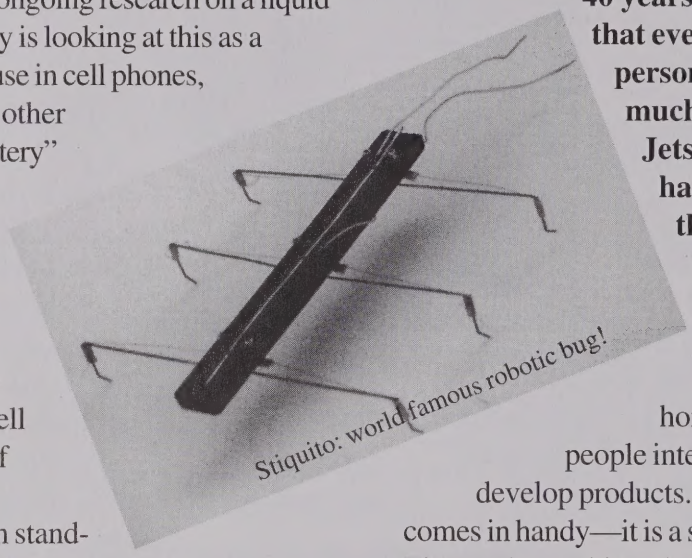
(continued from page 5)

implanted with a "memory stick" to store and exchange data?

Stiquito is too small for a memory stick—if you fit it with an infrared interface, it can talk to the computer, TV, VCR, etc. But that is not where its usefulness will lie. It will be in applications "in the small." Like crawling inside the VCR to clean the heads. There are two recent scientific advances I just found out about. One is that there is now research results on a plastic "muscle." It EXPANDS when heated, but takes a lot less electricity than nitinol. There is also ongoing research on a liquid fuel cell. My company is looking at this as a future technology to use in cell phones, but it can be used for other applications.This "battery" burns a liquid fuel to generate electricity. The battery can be refueled when depleted. It has the capability to generate enough power for a cell phone for hundreds of hours of talk time, or thousands of hours on stand-by time. Stiquito could sure use this mobile power source.



Stiquito: world famous robotic bug!

In the introduction of your new book, you mention a "Protobot," a robot that's based on a cockroach. Other than being ugly, what practical uses does a Protobot have?

Well, keep in mind that Protobot is no tiny cockroach. It's 2 feet long, which is pretty big even by Texas cockroach standards. This University of Illinois robot was designed for research purposes, just to see what would happen if a six-legged robot lost a leg. Or two! A cockroach can be useful. It can clean scraps of food on your floor. Of course, what it leaves in its place is disgusting. And the baby cockroaches everywhere—ugh! Now imagine, what if we can create a robotic cockroach (maybe one inch long) that would clean the floor, and not leave byproducts. The robot would not reproduce. It could sanitize itself daily. Now *that* would be a useful bug.

But how would it clean the floor, exactly? Sweep floor debris into a corner? Mop the floor with tiny sponges on its feet?

Well, since cockroaches have six limbs, they can hold three brooms and three dustpans. But they must be tiny ones.

40 years ago, scientists predicted that everyone would have personal "household" robots, much like "Rosie" in the Jetson's cartoon series. Why haven't these appeared on the market?

Today, you can buy an electronic dog, the Sony Aibo. It doesn't do much, but it *is* a start to home robotics. We need more people interested in robotics to develop products. That is where Stiquito comes in handy—it is a simple entry into robotics. Those who are bitten by the robotics bug (pun intended!) will buy other books, and study other technologies which will lead to future robotics products.

The first version of the Sony Aibo robot toy sold out in 20 minutes in Japan. Folks over there obviously have a keen interest in this sort of thing. Are they as enthusiastic about Stiquito as we are?

For some unknown reason, Stiquito has not taken off in Japan. I'm not sure if it's because of the language barrier, because they are not aware of it, or if it costs too much. Right now, I'm betting they don't even know about it!

I have a good hunch that they soon will. Thanks for your interview!

It's Alive!

James Conrad explains how to bring little things to life.

Obviously, you were interested in science as a child. But why robots?

Like many engineers, I took things apart. I even was able to put some things back together, with no extra parts. And some of these things (though not too many) actually *worked*. I guess I always liked to build things as a kid. When I was going through college, I really didn't get a chance to build much, other than software programs. It's fun to to build and see your final creation—to physically see it and touch it. Stiquito gave me a chance to do this. Now, remember, I did not invent Stiquito; I have just spent my time and efforts "commercializing" it. Jonathan Mills invented Stiquito out of necessity. He needed an inxepensive robot for his computing research. I first read about Stiquito in 1992, and started my work in robotics because of that first Stiquito kit.

How did you approach Jonathan Mills and become Stiquito's marketing genius?

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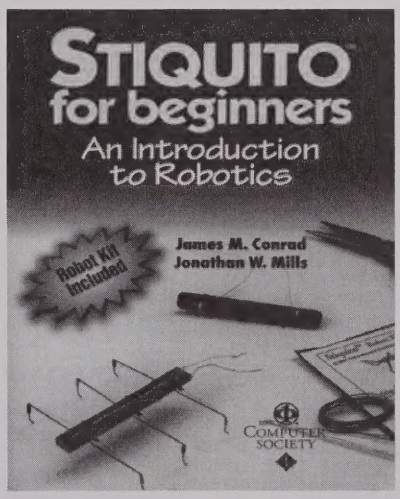

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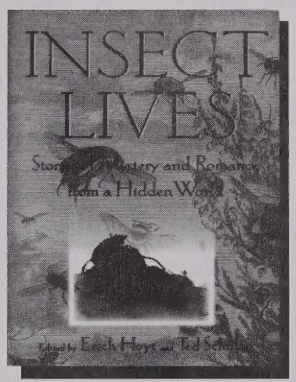
(continued on page 6)

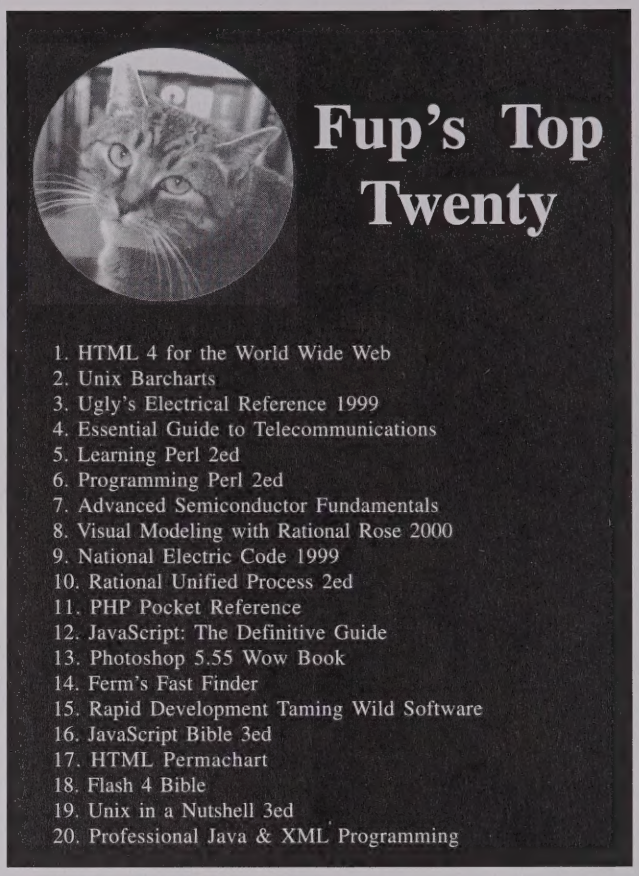
Tesla's work and research was suppressed for many years, and much of his work was quite revolutionary. This pamplet not only includes his patents but also provides interesting little tidbits about Tesla himself. Tesla was fascinated by the power of resonance, and built mechanical vibrators to induce man-made earthquakes. And yes, they worked! During an evening walk through Manhattan, Tesla attached one of his battery-operated, alarm clock-sized vibrators to the steel beam of a building under construction. He adjusted the vibrator to a suitable frequency and set the building—and the ground it stood on—shaking and quaking. He later boasted that he could bring down the Empire State Building, and that a larger-scale resonant vibrator could split the earth in half! The more you read about Tesla, the more you can see why Tesla's peers covered up his work.

-Lisa Miller



Insect Lives: Stories of Mystery & Romance from the Hidden World
Edited by Erich Hoyt and Ted Schultz
ISBN 0-471-28277-4
John Wiley & Sons
$27.95

Bugs give me the creeps if there's too many of them in one place. However, I believe in facing your fears, so I read **Insect Lives**. What a great book! It's full of entertaining factoids, illustrations, poetic writing on insects, and insect references from the Bible and "The Far Side" cartoons. In one essay, entomologist May Berenbaum compares the sex lives of insects and humans, and there's not much of a difference! I also enjoyed the "pain" chart that categorizes bites from wasps, bees and ants. The scale ranges from the mild "paper wasp" bite all the way to the traumatically painful "spider wasp" sting. Ouch! I was also morbidly fascinated by the insect cuisine. *Braised Beef with Caterpillar*? How about *Stag Beetle Larvae on Toast*? *-Lisa Miller*


Fup's Top Twenty
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2. Unix Barcharts
3. Ugly's Electrical Reference 1999
4. Essential Guide to Telecommunications
5. Learning Perl 2ed
6. Programming Perl 2ed
7. Advanced Semiconductor Fundamentals
8. Visual Modeling with Rational Rose 2000
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10. Rational Unified Process 2ed
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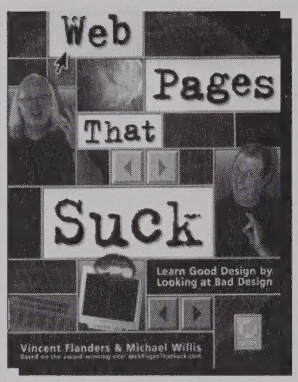
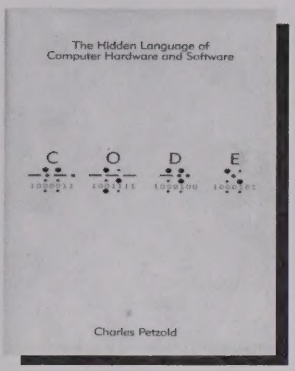


Web Pages that Suck
by Vincent Flanders & Michael Willis
ISBN 0-78212187-x
Sybex Publishing
$39.00

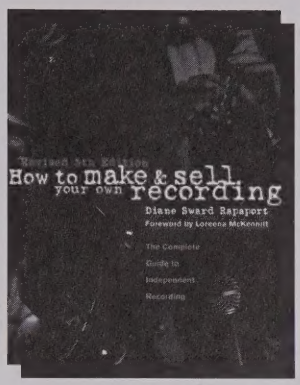
This book is based on the award-winning website, **WebPagesThatSuck.com**. I am a visual learner, and absorb information best when given good, visual examples of what I need to know—that's why this book is perfect for me, and perhaps for you too. Did you know that mayor Vera Katz has a web page that "sucks?" Well, blame her web designer, not her! Pepsi's website is another dubious winner; they have so many plug-ins, it's nearly impossible to use. It's helpful to understand why the authors feel these websites suck, although you will formulate your own opinions. This book teaches you what mistakes to avoid, and what tips to use to make your website successful. In the age of e-commerce and home-based businesses, this book is a must. *-Lisa Miller*



Code: the Hidden Language of Computer Hardware & Software
by Charles Petzold
ISBN 0-7356-0505-x
Microsoft Press
$27.99

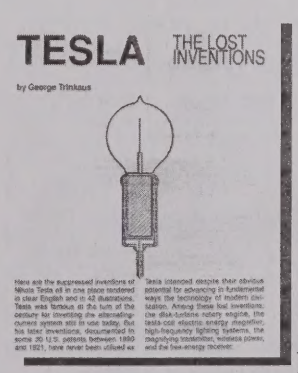
Charles Petzold goes way back. He's been writing programming books for nearly 20 years, and enjoys the distinction of being an expert in his field. Petzold is the recipient of the "Windows Pioneer" award, in recognition of his outstanding contribution to Windows-based programming. Indeed, his books often become standard classics, such as **Programming in Windows: The Definitive Guide to the Win32 API** and **Programming Windows 95**. Petzold's newest book, **Code: the Hidden Language of Computer Hardware & Software**, is a departure from his usual genre. He delves into the intricate history of code and computers. This is a very clever and challenging book, yet he writes for both computer novices and experts. Petzold asks simple, yet important questions. What is code? How have humans manipulated machines in order to communicate? How has code changed the way we live?

Petzold writes smart, friendly prose. He doesn't dumb down his logic, but instead uses clever symbols to explain things. Each chapter is increasingly more complex, based on your knowledge of what you've read in the last one. While there's plenty of math, schematic diagrams and illustrations, Petzold *also* entertains us by using whimsical cultural references to make a point. For example, Tony Orlando's "Tie a Yellow Ribbon" demonstrates that one binary digit can convey one of two possibilities (either there's a yellow ribbon around the tree, or there isn't). Petzold makes code interesting to a broad audience of readers—not a small feat! Beware: this book might awaken your inner geek. Enjoy at your own peril.


How to make & sell your own recording
Diane Sward Rapaport
Foreword by Loreene McKennitt
The Complete Guide to Independent Recording

How to Make & Sell Your Own Recording (fifth edition)
by Diane Sward Rapaport
ISBN 0-13-923947-2
Prentice Hall
$32.95

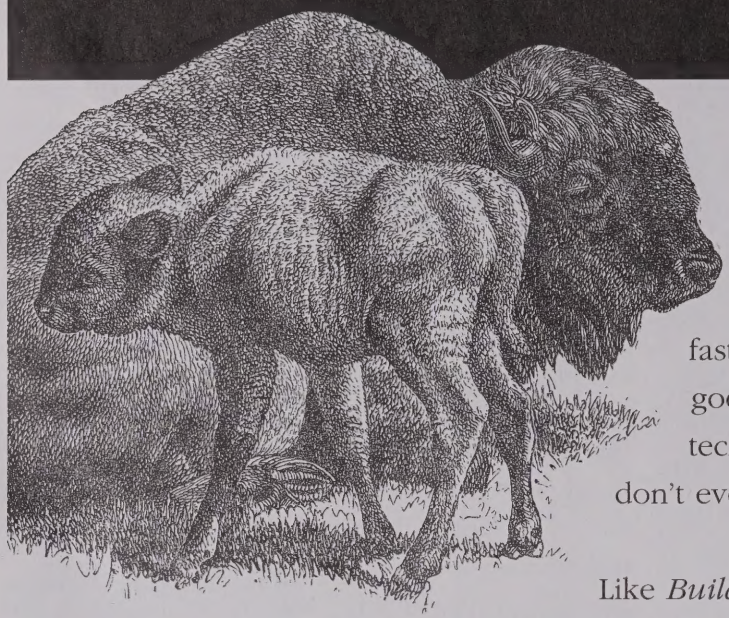
The great thing about my job is that my two lives collide on occasion, and often it's because of a great book. **How to Make & Sell Your Own Recording** is one of those. If you have ever thought about recording your own music—or have already done so—this book will be very helpful. This comprehensive, revised fifth edition helps you figure out important details such as expenses, how to prepare before arriving at the studio, graphics, packaging, manufacturing, copyrights, publishing, marketing, taxes, and financial planning. It even includes worksheets in the back to help you figure out your financial woes. This book also has guidelines for finding distribution, understanding recording contracts, sampling laws, and much more. I found this book useful in so many ways. I've recorded two CDs of my own, and have learned that there is so much more to the process than just recording the music. You need to know what your next steps are, understand your legal rights, and have enough money to promote your work. I strongly recommend this book for anyone in the music business. It's also helpful for those who want to break into the business as well. *Lisa Miller*



Tesla: The Lost Inventions
by George Trinkaus
ISBN 11-14-21429-9
High Voltage Press
$7.00

High Voltage Press, a tiny little publisher here in the Northwest, publishes several of these Tesla pamphlets. The information included in these little gems are hard to come by.

Tech problems got you buffaloed?



But don't wait too long! Projections for the newest members of the O'Reilly bestiary have them selling faster than peanuts at the zoo. And for good reason: O'Reilly books tackle technologies that other publishers don't even have on their radar screens.

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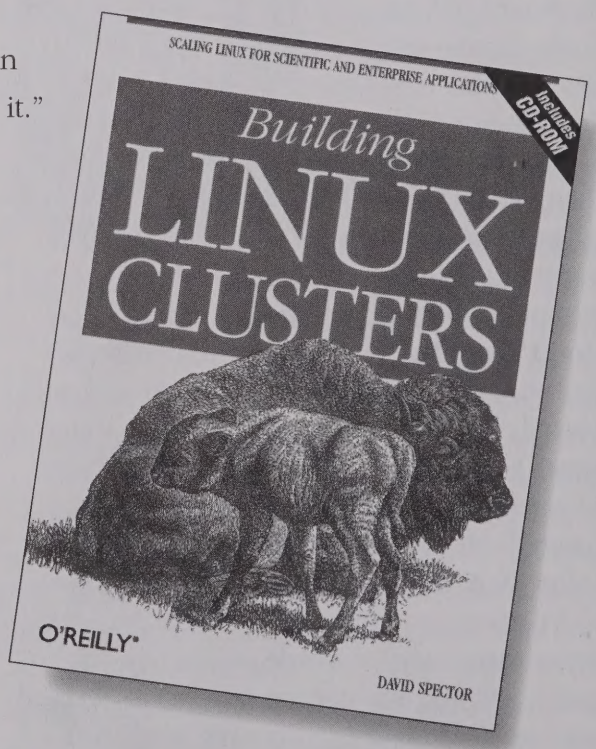

Building Linux Clusters

By David HM Spector
1st Edition May 2000
ISBN 1-56592-625-0
450 pages, Includes CD-ROM

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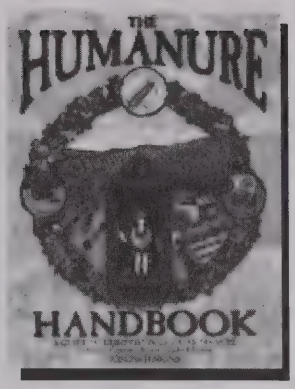
Before & After
by Matthew Thomas
ISBN 0-00-648302-x
Trafalgar Square
$11.00

The following passage is from the little-known Lost Centuries of Nostradamus: Quatrain, v11.5

THIS IS THE WAY THE WORLD ENDS...
The sheep shall be the first sign.
Those that frolic and hop will detonate with great concussions,
The strongest glues will not hold them,
Their suffering will go on unheeded,
Until the great Triangles depart.

When I saw the cover of this book, I just had to read it. Underneath a picture of an odd-looking lamb is the caption "A novel about exploding sheep, Nosradamus and the end of the world." I know you shouldn't judge a book by its cover, but the picture of the sheep (with the quote from Nostradamus) was just too much. I had to find out how an author could take exploding sheep, Nostradamas, aliens and doomsday and tie them all into one novel. **Before & After** is Matthew Thomas' first book. His clever British wit is similar to Douglas Adams' humor, and uses it artfully to present his twisted view of the universe. Take, for example, Hell. It is filled with demons creatively named "Guttlehog Junior Assistant High Demon (2nd class), Lord of the Warthogs & Arch-fiend of Washing Machine Motors" (yes, this is just one name). His opinions on the "American Television Evangelist," newspaper reporters and how the pyramids *really* got here are just as wacky. **Before & After** is great bubble gum for the brain. It's a perfect way to pass the time between all the serious things you have to do in your day. After reading this you may not care how the world ends, because if it ends anything like this, you'll be too busy laughing to care. *-Amber L.Berger*



Humanure Handbook 2ed
by Joseph Jenkins
ISBN 0-9644258-9-0
Jenkins Publishing
$19.00

Sadly, this wonderful book will never make the New York Times bestseller list. It very well should! The **Humanure Handbook** is an important book, as it directly addresses the disastrous consequences of the way we dispose of human waste into rivers and oceans. Author Joseph Jenkins bravely discusses things that make ordinary folks blanch—recycling human waste into compost. He has been recycling his family's bodily waste (aka "humanure") into compost for over 20 years. They've suffered no ill effects from this practice. Indeed, the color photographs in this book feature Mr. Jenkin's lush, organic food garden, and his family looks radiantly healthy. According to the author, "every time we flush a toilet, we launch five or six gallons of polluted water out into the world." A humble humanure composter saves money, restores land, fights pollution and destroys pathogens. So many benefits from such little effort!

This completely revised, expanded and updated edition of **The Humanure Handbook** discusses graywater systems, provides a list of worldwide toilet compost sources, and also detailed instructions on how to build your own $25 composting toilet. Not only does this book provide a wealth of information about alternative sewage systems, but it's full of cartoons, humorous drawings and bits of trivia. Your bodily waste isn't the only thing you can recycle, for example. Junk mail, toilet paper and dead animals (especially small ones) all compost very well when done correctly. Even if you don't plan to fertilize your garden with humanure, this book is still an educational and entertaining read on alternatives to currently wasteful and polluted sewage practices.

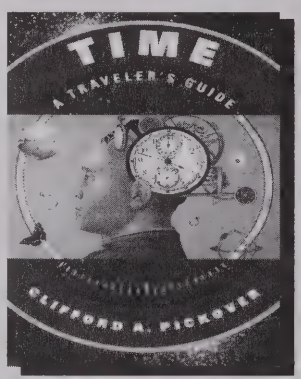
The Sun in the Church: Cathedrals as Solar Observatories
by J.L. Heilbron
ISBN 0-674-85433-0
Harvard University Press
$35.00

This book is a detailed look at the sometimes uneasy relationship between science and the church. Most people are at least somewhat familiar with the story of Galileo's work and how it was banned by the church as blasphemous. This book convincingly shows that the church oversimplified a complex political situation. In fact, Heilbron's book often seems to contain as much *political* science as *physical* science.

The church had its own uses for astronomy—primarily to determine the proper date for Easter. Astronomers had need of the church as well, but only for simple logistical reasons. In order to make and record solar observations (such as the summer and winter solstices), astronomers needed a large building to measure the passage of seasons across the (equally large) floor. At the time, cathedrals were the largest and tallest buildings available. The result was that some of Europe's churches were used as *meridiana*, the most accurate calenders of their time. The revolving pattern of light on the floor helped confirm the theory that the earth revolved around the sun. This created some uncomfortable situations over the years. Then there were also the daunting scientific obstacles, which are the objects of some of the books's best and most extensive discussions. The struggle to get accurate measurements with unreliable equipment in unstable buildings, combined with the tremendous amounts of time involved in experiments and calculations to determine simple physical constants, was nothing if not heroic.

The Sun in the Church is a fascinating epic with a large cast of characters—an appendix with a list of the *dramatis personae* would have been helpful. Heilbron does a very good job of explaining the science involved, but readers with no working knowledge of basic optics, astronomy or geometry might find this book tough going—reading this made me realize how much of it I've forgotten over the years. Personally, I was relieved to find that Heilbron's densely factual writing is definitely *not* long-winded, and he's much more droll than dry. Another bonus is that this is a very handsomely illustrated book—my compliments to designer Dean Bornstein. This book will make an attractive and enlightening addition to anyone's bookshelf. A note of interest—J.L. Heilbron has written numerous books on scientific history over the years, and one of them, **Electricity in the 17th and 18th Centuries: A Study in Early Modern Physics**, was recently reprinted in paperback by Dover, for $22.95 (ISBN 0-486-40688-1)

-Ron Silberstein



Time: A Traveler's Guide
by Clifford Pickover
ISBN 0-19-513096-0
Oxford University Press
$15.95

Years ago, I read a great fiction book on time travel called **Time and Again**. Author Jack Finney theorized that his fictional character could time travel simply by sequestering himself at the Dakota apartments in Manhattan, dressing himself in Victorian clothes, reading by gas lamps, and simply *believing* that the year was 1850. One evening, the slumbering protaganist woke up to the sound of horse hooves and rattling carriages outside his window. Hurrah—time travel worked! So, imagine my pleasure when I read Clifford Pickover's scientific take on this subject, **Time: A Traveler's Guide**, now available in paperback. Pickover adds a whimsical, sci-fi touch to his study of the science of time travel. On the first page, you discover that the year is 2063, and you're the curator of New York's Museum of Music. You and your adventuresome friends bounce through time, watch Chopin play nocturnes, take lots of walks, and engage each other in lively debates about physics,

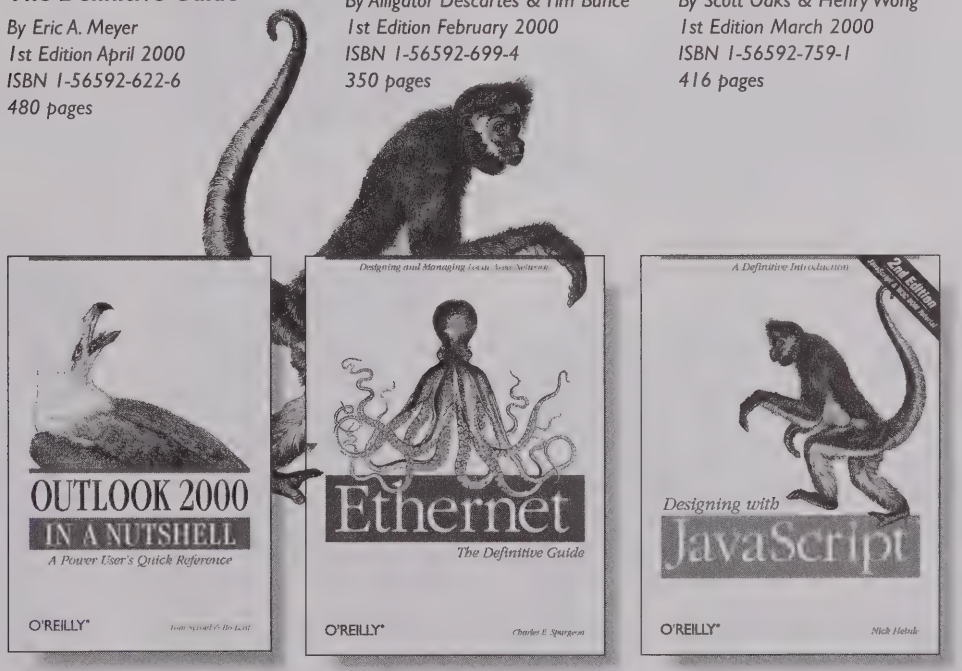
(continued on page 13)

Maybe you need some new animals.

Cascading Style Sheets: The Definitive Guide
By Eric A. Meyer
1st Edition April 2000
ISBN 1-56592-622-6
480 pages

Programming the Perl DBI
By Alligator Descartes & Tim Bunce
1st Edition February 2000
ISBN 1-56592-699-4
350 pages

Jini in a Nutshell
By Scott Oaks & Henry Wong
1st Edition March 2000
ISBN 1-56592-759-1
416 pages



Outlook 2000 in a Nutshell
By Tom Syroid & Bo Leuf
1st Edition May 2000
ISBN 1-56592-704-4
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By Charles E. Spurgeon
1st Edition February 2000
ISBN 1-56592-660-9
520 pages

Designing with JavaScript, 2nd Edition
By Nick Heinle
2nd Edition June 2000
ISBN 1-56592-360-X
300 pages

An Engineer's Dream

Our used book buyers enjoy a visit to the Linda Hall Library.

In all of my book-related travels, buying private collections, libraries and other bookstore's inventory, I have never run across anything else like the Linda Hall library in Kansas City, Missouri.

"The *what* library?!" you may ask. Chances are you've never heard of this privately endowed library dedicated to science, engineering, and technology. Most likely, you never thought such a library could exist. Well, it does. Herbert and Linda Hall established the trust funds that enabled the library to open in 1946, independent of any other institutions. For the researcher, engineer, or lover of technical books, the Linda Hall Library is a Mecca.

Set on 14 acres in Kansas City, the library is a charming place. A stroll around the grounds is a wonderful way to rest the brain from research, provided you aren't there during the snow season (but then, you may enjoy an unseasonably warm day, as used book buyer Ron and I did during our trip last November). And the collections? The first major acquisition was purchased from the American Academy of Arts & Sciences in 1946. In 1985, part of the Franklin Institute's library was transferred to Linda Hall from Philadelphia. Ten years later, the Engineering Societies Library moved its holdings from New York City to Linda Hall. The library holds long and mostly complete runs of major scientific and technical journals.

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fax: 816-926-8790
www.lhl.lib.mo.us/
-800-662-1545 (toll free) or 816-363-4600

The collection exceeds one million volumes. On a good day, Powell's Books Inc. can also boast one million volumes, but that's including *all* of the stores and warehouses, in all subjects—not just about technology!. But what good are one million volumes without a dedicated staff to purchase, catalogue, and make them available? One of the best things about the Linda Hall library is the staff, from the

reference librarians to "collection development," "document services" and "search services." The "history of science" folks are also wonderful. Check out *Leonardo*, the library's online catalogue. Staff members are ready to help the researcher find volumes in both the closed and open stacks. Books printed after 1960 are shelved in open stacks on the second floor. The closed stacks harbor books printed before 1960, specification and standards, journals, maps, and patent specifications.

Do not leave without asking for a tour of the rare book room. "Room" is a misnomer; it is actually two large rooms and a walk-in vault. The books date from the 15th century and are exquisite—from Audobon's "elephant" folio to the rather delicate collection of Darwin first editions, the RBR (or, rare book room, as we in the book business phrase it) is nothing short of a dream come true. Here again, the staff members only add to the experience with their kindness, enthusiasm, and sharing spirit. Looking back at our visit, I'm surprised that Ron and I actually left. We might have friends and family here in Portland, but the rare book room was enough to make us rethink our life choices. Simply put, visiting the Linda Hall Library was a wonderful experience. Many thanks to the staff at the Linda Hall Library for allowing us to visit, and for fulfilling the library's mission—to support research, education, and development by providing access to a preeminent collection. *-Kirsten Berg*

Bridges & Engines

Robert Cortright (left) and Lyle Cummins (at right) appeared at a dual author signing at Powell's Technical Books in March. Mr. Cortright's **Bridges** books are the beautiful works of an obsessed man—he travels the world in search of his favorite bridges. No destination is too far away for this intrepid traveler, writer and photographer.

Lyle Cummins writes about his entrepreneur father in his book **Diesel: An Odyssey of Clessie Cummins**. He founded the Cummins Engine Company. In 1931, he took his #8 Cummins Special to the Indianopolis Motor Speedway; his car was the first to run the entire 500 miles nonstop.

During their afternoon appearance, both authors visited with customers, autographed books, and chatted up fellow bridge and engine enthusiasts. Signed copies of their books are still available!

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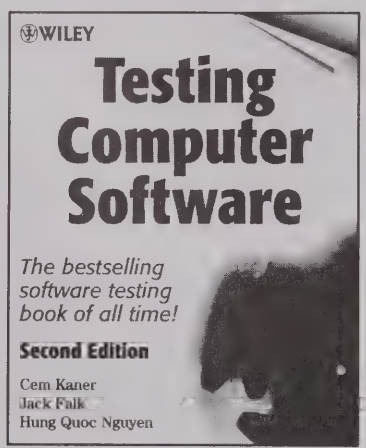

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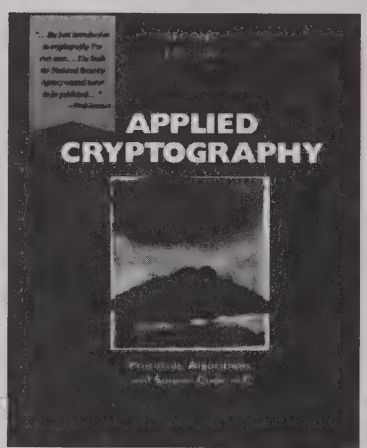

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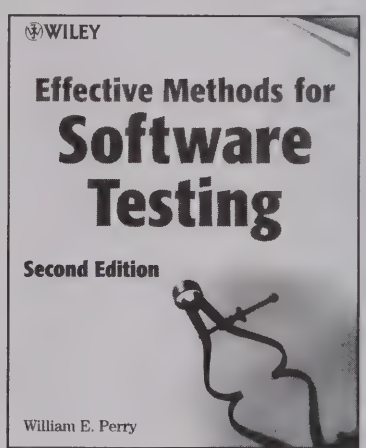

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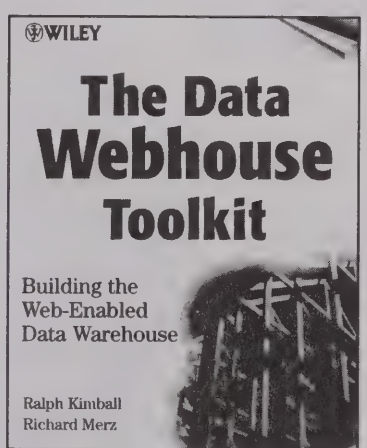

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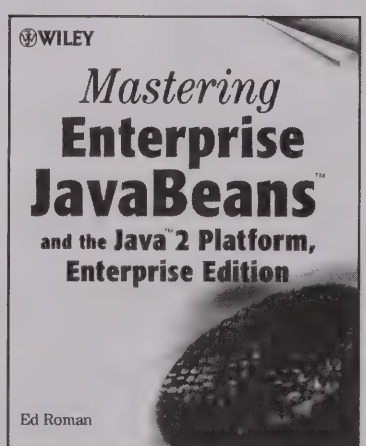


ISBN 0-471-33229-1 • $49.99

Customer in the Stacks

I found customer *Jason Frank* browsing in the web application section. We struck up a conversation and Jason even posed for the Polaroid. What a nice fellow!

So, you came in here today to buy a "GoLive" book. What for?
I am currently working on two websites. I needed a little back-up reference material. One of the websites is for a local band, and the other will sell an artful bondage book that includes my own photographs. Kigo press is publishing it.

What kind of books do you like?
My favorite series is the Adobe Classroom in a Book series, since I am very fond of Adobe products like Premiere and After Effects. As far as non-techie publishers go, I like Taschen's books quite a lot.

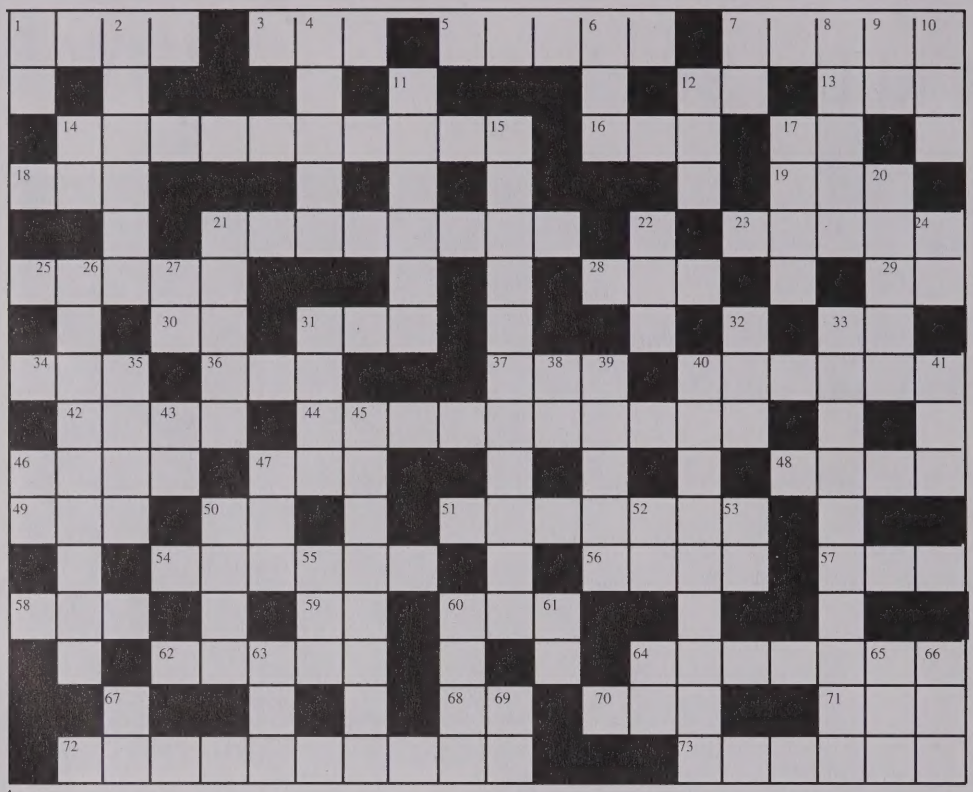
Whenever I see you, you always have a million projects going on at once. What's been keeping you busy lately?
Right now, I'm working on a short film. It's about a man who records sounds and happens across a woman who has been left in the trunk of her car to die. I'm also working on a series of photographs involving women and Japanese Noh theater masks.

If you were stranded on a desert island, what book or magazine would you like to have with you? No, it doesn't have to be technical.
I'd like to be stranded with a year's supply of *Covert Action Quarterly*. It's an investigative journalism kind of magazine that discusses activism and human rights.

Any opinions on the Microsoft monolopy scandal?
On the monolopy issue—no. I am not very fond of Microsoft. I have a Mac at home anyway. Microsoft is a boring company. The products they make aren't very interesting to me; they're akin to a simple machine that performs a mundane function that is needed, but still not very thrilling.

When you're not shopping for computer books, what do you like to do in your spare time?
I enjoy taking photographs and filming short movies. I also like buying fresh fish. Currently, my favorite fish is raw hamachi, an oily, strong flavored tuna type fish.

What's your favorite thing about Portland? Your least favorite?
My favorite thing about Portland is that it has a nice downtown. People are actually doing things down here all day and all night. There are lots of small stores, restaurants and bars. You go to some downtowns, and they're completely dead at night—and everything is so spread out. I like the feeling of being in a more densely populated urban setting. However, what I *don't* like about Portland is that it's a little provincial, and lacks some of the things that larger cities offer, like more choices in art and music.



Across

1. Set computer language
3. Online giant
5. ___ Pauling
7. Red Sea parter
12. Scholarly degree
13. French friend
14. Wrong deduction
16. Kind of algebra
17. Hippie trance
18. 2001 robot
19. Honest ___
21. Napkins are this
23. Biblical verse
25. Happy ever ___
28. Local area network
29. Out of print
30. Calculator brand
31. Donkey
33. Associated Press
34. ___ welding
36. Writer Anais
37. The Cars' Ocasek
40. Flatter
42. Mastery
44. NW lodge
46. Singly
47. Sex Pistol's Vicious
48. Fromage
49. ___ 9000
50. P. Gabriel's '86 album
51. Punk
54. Calm
56. Young muppet
57. PC linguistics
58. Winning card
59. Mother
60. Psychedelic
62. Cloven devil
64. NW mountain
68. Opposite of yes
70. Sushi sea urchin
71. Kitty
72. Michael J. Fox sitcom
73. Clam

Down

1. Sun god
2. Movie Critic
4. Nilsson's Point boy
6. Web address
7. Nerve disease
8. Unix admin. language
9. Auntie ___
10. Feynman's easy pieces
11. Type of rocks
12. Insect
14. Long, long way to run
17. Job
20. Hasty wedding
21. Pickling juice
22. Birthday boy
24. British Officer
26. Science of death
27. Movie alien
31. ___-Matter
32. Smart car club
33. NY mountains
35. Chocolate bean
38. Infrared (abbrev.)
39. Pacman ghost
40. Air mechanics
41. Regret
43. MC_ _
45. Alaskan sled race
46. Cockney greeting
47. Soil
50. Actress ___ Ward
52. ___ Bean (clothing store)
53. "___ Better Blues" film
55. Carter's daughter
60. Path
61. __ a deer
63. ___/ TK
64. Minnesota
65. Kind of seizure
66. Swank room abbrev.
67. Laura Ingall's dad
69. ___ Theory

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